GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2136
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
INTEGRATED RESERVOIR FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Integrated Reservoir Fisheries Development Project sanctioned in March, 1992 forAkola and Bhandara in Maharashtra, has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there was considerable shortfall in achievements of the project and the matter was referred to his Ministry by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG);

(d) the details of action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the further steps taken to develop fisheries projects in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under this Department sanctioned anIntegrated Reservoir Fisheries Development Project in March 1992 for Akola and Bhandara districts inMaharashtra, at a Block Cost of Rs.565.85 lakhs.The State Government has so far availed reimbursement of only an amount of Rs.319.44 lakhs (comprising of loan of Rs.302.94 lakhs and subsidy of Rs.16.50 lakhs). The balance assistance of Rs.246.41 lakhs is yet to be claimed by the State Government of Maharashtra.

In view of the slow implementation of the project, NCDC conducted comprehensive review, alsoinvolving the representative of the Commissioner of Fisheries, Maharashtra. The review team identified the following reasons for slow progress;

- Non-availability of quality fish seeds of desired size.
- Low utilisation of cages/pens for rearing fish seeds.
- Difficulties in supply of fish to urban markets by the district federations.

(c): The shortfall has been around 25% in the case of Akola and 30% in the case of Bhandara District. Report of the C&AG has been received.

(d): The report of the CAG has been sent to NCDC for their comments.

(e): NCDC started promoting and developing fisheries cooperatives after its Act was amended in1974 to cover fisheries within its purview. Assistance is provided to fishery cooperatives for the following purposes:

- Purchase of operational inputs such as fishing boats, nets and engines.
- Creation of infrastructure facilities for marketing, transport vehicles, ice plants, cold storages, retail outlets, processing units, etc.
- Development of inland fisheries, seed forms, hatcheries etc.
- Preparation of feasibility reports.
- Integrated Fisheries Projects (Marine, Inland and Brackish water.

Till 31/03/2001 NCDC sanctioned an assistance of Rs.651.52 crores against which Rs.405.91 crores has been released.